

CHINA

With which is incorporated The "Hongkong Evening Mail and Shipping List." Published every Evening.

VOL. XXXIII. No. 4369.

號三月七日一千八百七十七年三月七日

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, JULY 3, 1877.

MAIL.

Established February, 1845.

日三月五年五日

PRICE, \$24 PER ANNUM.

AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

LONDON.—F. ALGAR, 8, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street, George Street, 30, Cornhill, Gordon & Gorke, Ludgate Circus, E. C. Bates, Hendy & Co., 4, Old Jewry, E. C. SAMUEL DRAGON & Co., 160 & 164, Leadenhall Street.

NEW YORK.—ANDREW WIND, 133, Nassau Street.

AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW ZEALAND.—GORDON & GOTCH, Melbourne and Sydney.

SAN FRANCISCO and American Ports generally.—BEAN & BLACK, San Francisco.

CHINA.—SWATOW, QUINSAY & CAMPBELL, Amoy, WILSON, NICHOLS & Co., FOOCHOW, HEEGE & Co., Shanghai, LAM, CRAWFORD & Co., and KELLY & WALSH, Manic, C. HINNEMAN & Co., Macao, L. A. DA GRADA.

Banks.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL.....\$5,000,000 Dollars.
RESERVE FUND.....\$500,000 Dollars.

COURT OF DIRECTORS.

Chairman—H. HOPPIUS, Esq.
Deputy Chairman—F. D. SASSOON, Esq.
E. R. BELLIOS, Esq. WILHELM REINERS,
W. H. FORBES, Esq. ERQ.
Hon. W. KESWICK, ED. TOBIN, Esq.
A. MOLVIE, Esq.

CHINA MANAGER,

Hongkong... THOMAS JACKSON, Esq.
Manager.

Shanghai... EWEN CAMERON, Esq.
LONDON BANKERS.—London and County Bank.

HONGKONG.

INTEREST ALLOWED

ON Current Deposit Accounts at the rate of 1 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

On Fixed Deposits:—

For 3 months, 2 per cent. per annum.

" 6 " 4 per cent. "

" 12 " 5 per cent. "

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

Credits granted on approved Securities and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Drafts, granted on London, and the chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager.

Offices of the Corporation,
No. 1, Queen's Road East.
Hongkong, March 29, 1876.

CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA,
AUSTRALIA & CHINA.

CAPITAL.....£800,000.
RESERVE FUND.....£110,000.

BANKERS.

THE BANK OF ENGLAND.

THE CITY BANK.

THE NATIONAL BANK OF SCOTLAND.

THE BANK'S BRANCH in HONGKONG grants Drafts on London and the chief Commercial places in Europe and the East; buys and receives for collection Bills of Exchange; and conducts all kinds of Banking and Exchange Business.

Local Bills discounted, and Interest allowed on Current Accounts and on Deposits for fixed periods on terms which may be ascertained on application.

Notices of Firms.

NOTICE.

M. WILHELM CARL ENGEL BRECHT von PUSTAU, Junior, and Mr. CONRAD MUNROE DONNER, have been admitted Partners in our Firm from the First of January, 1877.

WM. PUSTAU & Co.,

Hongkong, Canton, Shanghai,

Hongkong, April 16, 1877.

NOTICE.

FROM This Date Mr. EDWARD SHEPPARD and Mr. M. W. GREIG, are authorized to Sign the name of our Firm per Procuratum at Foochow, and Mr. F. F. ELLSWELL at Amoy.

RUSSELL & Co.

China, June 1, 1877.

NOTICE.

M. F. C. DITTMER is authorized to sign our Firm per Procuratum.

SANDER & Co.

Hongkong, June 23, 1877.

NOTICE.

M. R. EDWARD BURKE will conduct the business of my Office, during my temporary absence from the Colony.

R. H. CAIRNS,

Surveyor to Local Offices,

and Lloyd's Register of Shipping.

2, Club Chambers, Hongkong, March 17, 1877.

919

Notices of Firms.

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned has been Appointed AGENT at this Port for THE POSITIVE GOVERNMENT SECURITY LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY (LIMITED).

W. H. NOTLEY.
Hongkong, June 6, 1877.

NOTICE.

BY Mutual Consent, the Firm of FRERKS, RODAZ & Co. has been DISSOLVED on This Day.

R. FRERKS,
G. C. F. RODAZ.
Hongkong, June 30, 1877.

The Undersigned, Establishing themselves This Day as SHIPHANDLERS and GENERAL STOREKEEPERS under the Style and Firm of RODAZ & Co., have taken over the Business of the late Firm of FREERKS, RODAZ & Co.

G. C. F. RODAZ,
C. KOCH.

Hongkong, July 2, 1877.

I HAVE This Day Established myself as SHIPBROKER.

ROBERT DROSS.
Hongkong, June 25, 1877.

Auctions.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions from W. H. MOSSOR, Esq., Marshal of the Vice-Admiralty Court of Hongkong, to sell by Public Auction, on

MONDAY,

the 9th day of July, 1877, at Noon, on Board,—

The American Barkentine
"ROSINA,"

Of 406 Tons Register or thereabouts, as she now lies in the Harbour of Hongkong, with Two Suits of Working SAILS, One Suit NEW SAILS, 1,500 superficial feet LUMBER, PROVISIONS, CHAINS, ANCHORS, BOATS, and all her Appurtenances.

The Vessel was Remodelled and Repaired in NEW YORK, in December, 1874, and there classed "A1", for Four Years in American Lloyd's. She was again Remodelled and Repaired at MELBOURNE, in November, 1876, at a Cost of about £1,000 and supplied with the New Suit of Sails referred to at a Cost of £200, and was then certified by the Surveyor to the Merchant Shipping and Underwriters Association Limited, as being fit to Carry Dry and Perishable Cargo to any part of the World. She Carries 580 tons of Coals or 800 tons Light Cargo of 40 cubic feet, 9,000 piculs of Rice on 14 feet Draft. She is a fast Sailing Vessel, and is in Complete Order for Sea on the shortest notice.

She has Four BOW TIMBER PORTS, two in the Lower Hold 32 x 32 inches, and two in the Tween Decks 40 x 28 inches.

For further Particulars and Inventory, apply to the Undersigned.

TERMS OF SALE.—Cash on the fall of the hammer in Mexican Dollars weighed at 7.17.

The Vessel to be, at purchaser's risk on the fall of the hammer:

J. M. ARMSTRONG,
Government Auctioneer.
Hongkong, June 18, 1877.

SPANISH CONSULATE.

TO BE SOLD BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the Offices of the Marine Department, Manila, on the 6th day of September next, at 10 o'clock A.M., the Spanish War Vessels "BERENGUELA" and "CIRCE" (declared by the Government "useless for further service").

Conditions of Sale, Inventory, Form of Tender, and all other Particulars respecting the above, can be obtained at the Offices of this Consulate.

The upcast Prices of the Vessels will be for the

Frigate "BERENGUELA" ... \$20,026.98
Corvette "CIRCE" \$ 5,278.27

and no offer will be received which does not exceed these amounts.

A. FARAUJO,
Consul for Spain.
Hongkong, June 12, 1877.

For Sale.

NOW READY.

A CHINESE DICTIONARY IN THE CANTONESE DIALECT, Part I, A to K, with Introduction, Royal 8vo, pp. 202.—By ERNEST JOHN EITER, Ph.D. Tübingen.

Price: TWO DOLLARS AND A HALF.

To be had from MEISSNER LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., Hongkong and Shanghai; and MEISSNER & WALTER, Manic.

2, Club Chambers, Hongkong, March 17, 1877.

919

For Sale.

AERATED WATERS, IN CODD'S PATENT GLASS STOPPED BOTTLES.

FROM the 1st July, the Price of all kinds of AERATED WATERS will be only.

FOUR CENTS Per Dozen.

SARSAPELLA WATER,
75 CENTS per Dozen.

ED. CHASTEL,
2, Wyndham Street, opposite the HONGKONG CLUB.

Hongkong, June 30, 1877.

FOR SALE.

CUTLER, PALMER & Co.'s
Celebrated

Brands of WINES and SPIRITS.

Apply to SIEMSSSEN & Co.

Hongkong, June 22, 1876.

FOR SALE.

HENRIOT & Co.'s CHAMPAGNE,
Carte Blanche "Dry,"

TH. ROEDERER & Co.'s CHAMPAGNE,
Carte Blanche.

JOHN DURAND & Co.'s CLARETS and WHITE WINES.

STAFTUP & KENTISH'S PORTS and SHERRIES.

MOULLON & Co.'s COGNACS, 1,2,3 Star.

BLANCHY FRERES & Co.'s COGNACS.

JUSTUS LEMBKE & Co.

Hongkong, April 9, 1877.

Intimations.

PIANOS, ETC.

TUNED AND REPAIRED,

BY

A. HAHN,

Care of MEISSNER LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.,

or

MESSRS. J. GAUPP & Co.

Hongkong, June 8, 1877.

DENTAL NOTICE.

O N and after the 28th of May, Dr.

STOUT'S Consulting and Operating

ROOMS will be on the Ground Floor of

the HOTEL DE L'UNIVERSITY.

Hongkong, May 26, 1877.

DENTAL NOTICE.

D. R. ROGERS has Returned to Hong-

kong, and will be ready to Receive

Patients on MONDAY, June 25th.

Office, No. 7, Arbuthnot Road.

Hongkong, June 20, 1877.

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES

MARITIMES.

PAQUEBOT POSTE FRANCAIS.

The Company's Steamship

"TANIAS

Notices to Consignees.

BRITISH STEAMER MIKADO,
BARCLAY, Master, FROM LONDON via
SINGAPORE.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo by the above
Steamer are hereby informed that
their Goods are being landed and stored
at their risk in the Godowns of the
Undersigned, from whence delivery may be
obtained.

Consignees wishing to take delivery of
their Goods from the Boats alongside the
Wharf are at liberty to do so.

Goods remaining in store after the 6th
July will be subject to rent.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless
notice to the contrary is given by 2 o'clock
Today.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

W.M. PUSTAU & Co.,
Agents S.S. Mikado.

Hongkong, June 20, 1877.

jy6

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEE.

THE AMERICAN SHIP LEADING
WIND, FROM ANTWERP.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo by the above
named Vessel are requested to send in
their Bills of Lading to the Undersigned
for countersignature, and to take immediate
delivery of their Goods.

Cargo impeding the discharge of the
Vessel will be landed and stored at Con-
signees' risk and expense.

MEYER & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, July 2, 1877.

jy9

S. S. GLENFALLOCH,
FROM LONDON AND SINGAPORE.

THE above Steamer having arrived,
Consignees of Cargo by her are hereby
informed that their Goods are being landed
at their risk and stored by the Undersigned
in their Godowns, whence delivery may be obtained.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded to
Shanghai, unless notice to the contrary is given
before 3 p.m. To-day.

Cargo remaining undelivered after the
9th Instant will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, July 2, 1877.

jy8

BARQUE CHINAMAN, FROM
LONDON.

THIS Vessel having arrived, Consignees
of Cargo are requested to send in their
Bills of Lading to the Undersigned for
countersignature, and to take immediate
delivery of their Goods.

Cargo impeding the discharge of the
Vessel will be landed and stored at Con-
signees' risk and expense.

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, May 21, 1877.

jy8

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES
MARITIMES.

S. S. ANADYR.

NOTICE.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo per S. S.
Euphrate, from London, in connection
with the above Steamer, are hereby in-
formed that their Goods are being landed
and stored at their risk at the Company's
Godowns, whence delivery may be obtained
immediately after landing.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded on,
unless intimation is received from the Con-
signees, before To-day, at 11 a.m., request-
ing it to be landed here.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by
the Undersigned.

Goods remaining unclaimed after SATUR-
DAY the 30th Instant, at Noon, will be
subject to rent and landing charges.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

H. DU POUEY,
Agent.

Hongkong, June 25, 1877.

jy6

Not Responsible for Debts.

Neither the Captain, the Agents, nor
Owners will be Responsible for any
Debt contracted by the Officers or Crew
of the following Vessels, during their stay
in Hongkong Harbour:—

ROSSINA American 3-m. schooner, Capt.
C. W. Hansen.—Arnhold, Karberg & Co.

HANNAH LAW, British ship, Captain R.
Greig.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

HIZERONIUS, British brig, Capt. T. A.
Koch.—Landakin & Co.

ECHO, British barque, Captain Tozer.—
Arnhold, Karberg & Co.

ROBERT HENDERSON, British barque, Capt.
John J. Gunn.—Vogel, Hagedorn & Co.

BROWN BROTHERS, American ship, Capt.
D. S. Goodall.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

MATCHLESS, American ship, Capt. John
C. Davies.—Douglas Lapraik & Co.

VISCONTI MACDOWELL, British 8-m. sloop, Capt.
Cap. Wm. Wright.—Borneo Co., Limited.

CORINNE, British barque, Captain Wm.
Robertson.—Wisker & Co.

JOHN, Norwegian ship, Capt. P. Hauff.

MELCHERS & Co.

LEADING WIND, American ship, Captain
F. M. Hinckley.—Meyer & Co.

CHARLOTTE ANDREWES, British barque,
Captain George Place.—Rosario & Co.

LOUISA, German 8-m. schooner, Captain
H. Schleicher.—El. Schellbach & Co.

JADE, Russian ship, Capt. C. F. McBerg.

Order.

To-day's Advertisements.

FOR SHANGHAI.

The Steamship
"GLENFALLOCH"
Captain Tatton, will leave
as above on THURSDAY,
the 6th instant, at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.

Hongkong, July 3, 1877.

jy5

FOR FREIGHT OR CHARTER.

The 3/3 L 1 American Bark
"FRED. P. LITCHFIELD,"
SPALDING, Master.

Apply to

MEYER & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, July 3, 1877.

jy6

To-day's Advertisements.

FROM CALCUTTA, PENANG AND
SINGAPORE.

THE S. S. Venice having arrived, Con-
signees of Cargo by her are hereby
requested to send their Bills of Lading for
countersignature to the Undersigned, and
to take immediate delivery of their Goods.
Cargo impeding the discharge will be
at once landed and stored at Consignees'
risk and expense.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.
Hongkong, July 3, 1877.

jy10

FROM CALCUTTA, PENANG AND
SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship Aratoon Appear, Captain
MacTavish, having arrived from the
above Ports, Consignees of Cargo by her
are hereby requested to send in their
Bills of Lading to the Undersigned
in their Straits. From Singapore moderate
monsoon and squally weather.

SHIPPING REPORTS.

The British steamer Aratoon Appear re-
ports: In China saw experienced strong
monsoon with thick weather and rain
throughout.

The British steamer Venice reports:
Strong monsoon to Penang, and fine was
ther in Straits. From Singapore moderate
monsoon and squally weather.

The British steamer Lotus reports: Ex-
perienced moderate monsoon and fine weather
to Lat. 15° N., thence to port moderate
Northerly winds and variable weather.

The British steamer Norma reports:
Light S.W. winds and clear weather.

The French steamer Tonkin reports:
Fine weather throughout the passage.

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accidental fall, which caused the unfortunate result. Verdict accordingly.

A third Inquest was held on the body of a Chinese woman named Yik a Chuen, aged 25 years, who died of opium poison. The body was taken to the Chinese Hospital early yesterday morning by the husband, but the Hospital authorities would not receive it, and ordered it to be taken to the Lock Hospital. Some misunderstanding seemed to have taken place, for the admission of the body into the Civil Hospital was not known to Dr Wharry until it was too late for an Inquest to be held yesterday. A Chinese doctor from Tung Wah Hospital was called, but the knowledge of the healing art appeared to have been of the most primitive character; for all the test by which he could distinguish opium waists black colour. This doctor saw some black stuff on the mouth of the deceased and he concluded that it was opium. He did not know how to analyze the contents of the stomach, and could not therefore trace out opium, except when it was not dissolved.—The husband, Low Awan, a man of no particular occupation, identified the deceased as his wife, whom he discovered during the night of the 1st to be dying from opium poison. Means were at once taken to save her, but failed, and she was therefore conveyed to the Chinese Hospital. At that time there was still some life left in the body, but no attempt was made to save her there, and the husband was told to take the body to the Lock Hospital. When the body left the Chinese Hospital, there was still life in the body, though very little. He did not know why the deceased took opium; he had no quarrel with her.

The Coroner said there was a deal of hardness overhanding this matter, and he should like to have a searching enquiry into it. It would be saving time to adjourn now to allow the Police to work the case up a little. The enquiry was then adjourned till to-morrow at 8 p.m. at the Magistracy.

SUPREME COURT. IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION. (Before Mr Justice SNOWDEN.)

July 3, 1877.

Choy Chiu v. Tang Shing, \$342.26.—This was a claim on a promissory note and was partly heard on previous Court days, but was adjourned by the Chief Justice to this day for Mr Justice Snowden to take the case, as a question of exorbitant interest was involved.

The defendant admitted giving the promissory note with interest at about 50 per cent per annum.

His Lordship said if the defendant chose to give the note at this rate of interest, the Court could not relieve him, except it had been given under pressure or other fraudulent circumstances.

Judgment for the plaintiff for the amount claimed. Mr Sharp appeared for the plaintiff.

Melchers & Co. v. Leong Tat, \$274.16.—In this case a writ of foreign attachment was issued returnable to-day. Mr Brereton who appeared for the plaintiffs, asked that the case be postponed till this day week. Adjourned accordingly.

Wilson and another v. J. Inglis, \$148.85.—Mr Brereton appeared for the plaintiffs, who are architects in the Colony; and the defendant is a marine engineer carrying on business under the style of Inglis & Co. The claim was for commission for some professional work. In December last the defendant intended to make certain additions to his establishment, and Mr Wilson was engaged to prepare a plan for the proposed work and an estimate of the cost before advertising for tenders to perform this work. Mr Brereton said it was an understood thing in the profession that when an architect was employed to prepare the plan and to superintend the execution of the work, his commission was 5 per cent on the amount of the work, so that if the cost of a proposed work was \$5,000 or \$6,000 the commission would be \$250 or \$300. But where the architect only prepared the plan, the commission was only 2½ per cent. In December last the plaintiff prepared a plan together with an estimate, but the defendant, it appeared, had changed his mind and never had the work carried out. The plaintiff having waited some time and hearing nothing further, sent in a bill for 2½ per cent commission for the plan and estimate which he had prepared at great trouble, but could not obtain payment.

Mr W. Wilson was called—I am an architect and a member of the firm of Wilson & Salway. In December last I was employed by the defendant to enlarge their foundry, add verandahs to the house, &c. I made out the necessary plans and sent them to him for approval. He approved of them. I sent also an estimate of the cost for proposed works. The amount of the estimate was \$5,954.60. Our variable charge for such work is 2½ per cent, and this is the usual charge of the profession. The 2½ per cent on \$5,954.60 in \$148.80, the amount claimed. The plans were approved, but the work was not carried out. We charge 2½ per cent for the plans and the estimate. If I had to superintend the work, I would charge 2½ per cent more. If the work is for a smaller sum than \$5,000, I charge 7½ per cent. I had done work for the firm before and had charged the same commission, which was paid without demur.

Mr Inglis said that work had very been very brisk in his yard and he had had no time to carry out the proposed additions yet, but they would eventually be completed.

Mr Wilson said he had waited for three months and had spoken to the defendant several times.

His Lordship thought there was really no answer to the action.

Mr Inglis thought the charge was too high.

Mr Wilson said it was the usual charge in the profession, and Mr Inglis had paid at the same rate before.

His Lordship wished to hear Mr Inglis.

Mr John Inglis was called—I employed the plaintiff to draw up the plan and an estimate accompanied it. The amount was for \$6,054.60. The work has not been undertaken yet. Mr Wilson sent me a bill, but I objected to pay it on the ground that was too much.

Mr A. Chart was called. He said if tenders had been called, the cost of the estimate might be reduced by about \$800.

Judgment was given for the plaintiff, with costs. His Lordship said that, though the work did not seem to be much, the defendant knew what the charge was.

was for goods sold and delivered. The debt had been pending for a long time. The defendant did not appear, and judgment was given against him.

Police Intelligence. (Before the Hon. C. May.)

July 3, 1877.

OBSTRUCTION.

Yeong Atin and two others were charged with obstructing the fair-way of the steamer *Araratian Aspar*, before she was properly moored, and two of the defendants had got on board before the arrival of the Health Officer. Fined \$2 each, or three days' imprisonment.

RETURNING FROM DEPORTATION.

Wong Alow, a barber, was brought up for having returned from deportation. He was twice in gaol, one for frequenting a gambling house, for which he was fined \$20, in default two months' imprisonment. He was again sent to gaol on 13th June 1876 as a rogue and vagabond and was sentenced to three months' hard labour, and to give security for three months. He failed to find bail and petitioned to be deported from the Colony in lieu of remaining in gaol. His request was granted and he was deported.—The defendant said he was sent here by his mother to bring his brother to Canton, his brother having expressed a wish to go to Singapore.—The defendant was sent to one month's hard labour.

UNLAWFUL POSSESSION.

Leung Ashe, a boatman, was fined 10s. for having in his possession about 4 catties of salt fish for which he could not account.

ASSAULT.

Mr A. A. Da Cruz, clerk to Messrs Falconer & Co., was summoned by Ho Afoo, a servant, for an assault. The complainant stated that he was house servant to the defendant, and had been so for two years. On the 30th ulto, defendant told him to get his slippers. He was going to do so, but as he was carrying something from one room to another at the time, he delayed a little, and the defendant was angry, struck him and kicked him, tearing his coat (shews a torn coat and two light marks on the leg).—The defendant said he called for his slippers; the complainant threw them down to him in an insolent manner, so that they were upside down. The defendant told him to put them right. He would not and defendant took hold of him to make him do it. In doing so, his coat was torn. Fined 1s.

NUISANCE.

Messrs Siemien & Co. were summoned by Inspector McKinney for permitting the drainage from their property in Yee On Lane to flow over the foot-way at Queen's Road Central, thereby causing a nuisance. Mr William Schirver appeared for the firm. Adjourned till the 9th inst.

LARCENY.

Wong Akin, a chair-coolie to Mr C. F. A. Sangster, was charged by his master with stealing \$10 from him. The complainant sent the defendant with a soda water book and a \$10 note to pay to Mr Chastell. The defendant returned in half an hour and said Mr Chastell was not in his office then. Mr Sangster told him to go back again by and bye, and the book and note were in the defendant's possession. It was the defendant's turn yesterday to remain at the Court to wait for any orders from his master. The complainant had occasion to call for the defendant twice, but could not find him. About 2.30 p.m. the complainant sent his servant to look for him, and he was then seen. Complainant then asked him through the sheriff of the Court where he had been, but being busy in Court the complainant did not hear the answer, in fact he forgot all about the matter afterwards. This morning he learnt something and asked the defendant about the \$10 and said he would give him into custody.—The defendant said he fell asleep and the money was stolen from him. After that he had tried to raise this money among his friends but failed.—The Magistrate sent the defendant to three months' hard labour, being of opinion that he had lost it in gambling.

CORRESPONDENCE.

*THE PROPOSED STEAM LAUNDRY.
To the Editor of the "CHINA MAIL."*

Hongkong, July 8, 1877.

Sir,—In answer to your leaderette of last evening, regretting having heard nothing lately of the proposed Steam Laundry Company, I beg to hand you, herewith, a copy of the Report of the Provisional Committee, which you would oblige me by reproducing in your valuable paper, to show that, up to the present, everything has been done in the matter, that could be, and all that now remains, is for the public to step forward and subscribe the whole amount required, if they desire to have their linen washed, dried, and ironed by steam, instead of mercilessly smashed to pieces on the hill side, as you so justly observe. As the promoter of this enterprise I always have been and am still willing to take up at least 10 Shares, and if all those of the community, who desire their linen cleaned by steam, will only do the same, or even average one half that number each, the Colony would soon see the Company registered and started; but only \$6,000 promised, when \$80,000 are pronounced necessary, you can but agree that it would be very foolish to attempt to start.

Hoping this explanation will be satisfactory, as to why you have heard nothing lately of the proposed Steam Laundry, and that in justice to me you will kindly make this answer public.

I beg to remain, Sir,

Yours faithfully,
C. E. COLLINGS,
Promoter.

A LEADING QUESTION.

To the Editor of the "CHINA MAIL."

Hongkong, July 3d, 1877.

Sir,—The correspondence published in your paper of last night suggests an enquiry concerning the long-projected new buildings for the Central School.

We all know that the old building is too small. Any one who has visited it during the summer months will without hesitation say that some of the school rooms unfit for

human labor, and moreover the building has been repeatedly pronounced unsound. On the other hand, the newspapers have told us that money has been granted for building; a large block of houses in Aberdeen Street was purchased, and afterwards demolished; and unless I am much mistaken, orders were actually given for the preparation of the site. All this was months ago, and the New Government School is now fast becoming one of the jokes of the colony.

Will no one suggest to our energetic Governor that *days are dangerous!*

I am, your &c. READER.

LONDON GOSSIP. (Pioneer)

May 20th 1877.

You will notice in the papers an extract from *Le Pays* regarding a French chemist, who has; it is there stated, already gone to Constantinople with the offer to blow up any Russian corps d'armes on the Danube *gratis*, although he will subsequently require an immense sum, paid in advance, for performing the same office on a Russian army in Asia Minor. I think nothing can be fairer than the chemist's offer. Indeed, it is liberal. It would be quite in accordance with the most modern notion of equity if he stipulated for "payment by results." Thus, if he succeeded in blowing up twenty, or thirty thousand Russians (say at Rustchuk), he might fairly ask the Turks for some little emolument. He does no such thing. He makes them a free present of anything he may do in that way in Europe. It would be just a trifle to show what he could do in Asia when he gave his mind to it. But seriously I see no reason why his *modus operandi* by land-torpedoes (*i.e.*, by mines of dynamite or gun-cotton instead of powder) should not be largely and effectively used in defensive war by land as well as by sea.

There is a joke against Mr. Wybrow Robertson, the energetic manager of the Westminster Aquarium. Yesterday morning *News* a letter purporting to come from some place on the west coast of Scotland, to the effect that the sea-serpent had been actually captured at last. Names of persons and places were given with great detail, the dimensions of the beast, 100 feet long, &c., &c., concluding with the announcement that telegrams had been sent to all our learned naturalists and men of science to invite them to come and see the monster. Mr Robertson was seized with a happy thought, and immediately telephoned to the authorities at the place in Scotland, offering to buy the reptile for the Aquarium, expense no object, if he was picked (fancy picking 100 feet of sea-serpent) and sent off immediately. Of course, he got an answer back to say that they knew nothing about the sea-serpent, and requesting that a shilling's worth of stamps might be sent directly to destroy the cost of telegraphing! Poor Mr Robertson has had to bear an amount of chaff, of course; but I think he ought to be commended for his zeal. What a card the sea-serpent would have been at the Aquarium! By the way, the Hindoo jugglers performing are, I should say, very poor specimens of their class. Their only good trick is the boy in the basket, and that could be better done by Maskelyne and Cooke. Colonel Henderson has given the *Zazel* performance a capital advertisement by writing to Mr Robertson, and informing him that the directors of the Aquarium will be held responsible for any accident that may happen. To this Mr Robertson has replied, enclosing some medical and surgical opinions to the effect that the performance is rather a safe one than not; that "Zazel burst into tears" when she was told that the cruel police wanted to stop her exhibition; and concluding by inviting Colonel Henderson and Mr Secretary Cross to get into the gun and be experimented upon. The correspondence is placed all over the interior of the Aquarium, which is crowded every night. The *World* says that there is a stampede of members from the House to the Aquarium every evening about the time that *Zazel* performs. I thought I saw the Speaker there (the House was in committee) last Thursday. He is a lark boy, for he went to the Folly to have a night, and somebody took his watch.

I have heard, on very nearly the best authority—viz., the authority of a member of the Metropolitan Board of Works—that there is no chance whatever of the National Opera on the Thames Embankment being continued, or gone on with in any way, or for any purpose, for some time, and very little chance of it ever being completed as an opera-house. There is not a penny in hand; more than twenty-five thousand pounds are already owing to various contractors on account of work done; and the building is hardly yet above ground. In addition to all other causes of discouragement, there is the circumstance that Her Majesty's Theatre in the Haymarket is now restored to its old use as a house for opera. There may possibly be new room for two opera-houses, but there is certainly no need for three. Besides, if the National Opera is not needed for Mr. Mapleson's, who is more or less profitably established now in the Haymarket. But for my own part I really do not think that London, vast and populous as it is, wants or can support even two Italian operas. Of course I know that there actually are two, and that there have been two for the last seven years, but I don't know that the *impresario* of either has made anything by his management. Popular as Mr. Gye is, I don't think he has saved anything; and the impression is that Mr. Mapleson has found his undertaking less lucrative still. It is easy to see why this should be so. The competition between the two houses for the more famous *avettes* enable those latter to extort their own terms; while the same competition for the patronage of the opera-going public has made a corresponding rise in price impracticable. While the cost of almost everything else has more than doubled, the "subscription" to a stall at Covent Garden, or at Her Majesty's is now precisely what it was when Grisi made her *début* in London forty-one years ago. Of course I, personally, am very far from regretting this competition. If there were only one Italian Opera the result would be that I should probably never get within its walls—the price of admission would be so high. Nevertheless I am unshakable enough to see that there would be some advantages on the other side—advantages almost of a national order. The London Opera would then collect a galaxy of vocal talent such as the other capitals of the world could never present. The orchestra, it is true, could hardly be better than those presided over at present by Vianesi and Sir Michael Costa; but the choruses would probably be vastly improved, and more splendour might be afforded in the scenery, costumes, and other accessories. At present, not to speak of the *Alhambra*, there are several theatres in

London which mount their pieces far more handsomely, as to scenery and dresses than either of the opera houses no. Then another result of the greater costliness and consequent exclusiveness of a single Italian opera would be a recurrence to the old courtly fashion of feigning Her Majesty's Theatre to be part of Her Majesty's Court, so that on Drawing-room days ladies went to the opera in their diamonds and feathers, just as they had gone to the Drawing-room. Now this is so far from the case, that Mr. Mapleson does not absolutely insist on men wearing evening dress; he only requires people in morning dress to enter by a particular door—that in the arcade. By the bye, do you happen to know that Ted Heathley is the real owner of Her Majesty's Theatre, the great wine merchant having bought it over Lord Dudley's head? Lord Dudley, however, has still a portion of this lease unexpired. *Apropos* to this lease, a characteristic story is current regarding Lord Dudley, and I believe, moreover, it is quite true. There had been an old disputed account between Lord Dudley and Mr. Mapleson, dating from the time when Her Majesty's Theatre was burnt down, by which Lord Dudley considered that Mr. Mapleson was his debtor to the tune of \$1,500. On reference, however, to arbitrators, the decision was given that Mr. Mapleson did not owe the money, or at any rate it was a demand which could not be enforced. Nevertheless Lord Dudley nursed the injury in his bosom, and to all the suggestions made him from different quarters: "Why don't you let the theatre to Mapleson rather than allow it to remain empty?" he replied: "Let him pay me my \$1,500." So at last, this year, Mr. Mapleson, under shrewd advice, paid Lord Dudley the disputed fifteen hundred pounds, whereupon he obtained Her Majesty's Theatre at a rental of £6,000, he having formerly offered £8,000 for it vain! This story is quite in accordance with the common saying among those who know anything of Lord Dudley's mode of conducting business, that "his Lordship pays thirty shillings in the pound for everything."

The most pressing questions for the belliegants seem to be where money is to come from, and who is to be security for the necessary loans. Already both exchequers are fairly drained. If there were a way of stopping war loans, the Russ and the Turk would shake hands; but somehow the most needy borrower in such times finds a way of getting money. How about the repayment? At one of the goings-down of Atlantic steamers a couple of years ago, an American lady and her two daughters honoured the ceremony with their presence. The mother was drowned, the daughters were saved. The younger one recounts the event by stating that "Mother and we did the splash together; sis' and I bubbled up again; mother didn't."

Two trains, going in contrary directions, crossed between Cordova and Seville the other day, and waited side by side in the same station. In one was the ex-Empress of the French, in the other the Duke of Montpensier; the latter raised his hat, the Empress bowed in return; afterwards both Royal travellers got out and paced the railway station, and entered into conversation. The result of which courteous and simple proceeding is the current rumour that a matrimonial alliance has been settled between the Prince Imperial and the Duke of Montpensier's daughter; which is a fresh proof that man can create much out of nothing. So long as the Danube remains the first line of defence of Turkey, Silistria must always play an important part in wars between it and Russia. The town itself is situated on the right bank of the Danube, and is overlooked by a range of hills to the south. The enceinte of the fortress consists of ten bastioned front. The ditches are from twenty-five to thirty-five yards wide, ten to twelve feet deep, with revetted escarp and counterscarps, and are all well flanked. Without the enceinte is a girdle of detached forts, which are well situated for defence and are of great strength. In each one there is a bombproof masonry redoubt for the defence of the gorge. The largest of these detached works lies due south of the town, on the highest ground occupied by the fortifications. In its construction many modern improvements have been introduced. The ditches are flanked by bombproof embrasures, placed in the angles of the work, and giving a musketry and artillery fire each way. The escarp wall is continued eight feet above the level of the ground, and loopholed for musketry, the parapet being retired about eight feet from it, so that, even if the wall is breached, the parapet does not necessarily fall. The forts are all within range of the fortress; but as the former are upon much higher ground, the fire of the latter could be but of little assistance to them.

The fortifications of Rustchuk, which is situated upon a plateau some thirty to forty feet above the waters of the Danube, consist of a bastioned enceinte, the escarp and counterscarps to the ditch being reveted, except along the river front, where the counterscarp is not supported by masonry. Since 1854 the works of the fortress have been extended, so that they now overlook the Lom, which flows into the Danube immediately above the town. The general form of the enceinte is described as being of a right-angled triangle, the hypotenuse, formed by six irregular bastioned fronts, being washed by the river. At the western angle of the triangle is the citadel, also a bastioned work. The hypotenuse is broken outwards, one of the bastions, known as the Kalo-Alk-Tscha, projecting into the bed of the river. Advanced works have been constructed on the farther side of the Lom in the form of redoubts; and the right angle of the triangle on which the enceinte is traced is covered by a lunette. Bomb-proof magazines have been provided, and secure accommodation for the garrison has also been arranged both in the detached works and in the enceinte, and the former are connected with one another and with the latter by submarine telegraph wires. The key of the fortress is the fort situated on the highest point of the plateau, and known as the Fort Sary Bair, since from it the town and the other detached works are completely commanded. The nature of the soil, which is sand, would facilitate the construction

INSURANCES.

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.
HEAD OFFICE—HONGKONG.

A GENOLES at all the Treaty Ports of China and Japan, and at Singapore, Saigon and Ponang.

Risks accepted, and Policies of Insurance granted at the rate of Premium current at the above mentioned Ports.

NO CHARGE FOR POLICY FEES,
JAS. B. COUGHLIE,
Secretary.

Hongkong, November 1, 1871.

LANCASHIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.
(FIRE AND LIFE).

CAPITAL.—TWO MILLIONS STERLING.

THE Undersigned are prepared to grant Policies against the Risk of FIRE on Buildings or on Goods stored therein, or Coals in Matches, on Goods on Board Vessels and on Hulls of Vessels in Harbour, at the usual Terms and Conditions.

Proposals for Life Assurances will be received, and transmitted to the Directors for their decision.

If required, protection will be granted on first class Lives up to £1,000 on a Single Life.

For Rates of Premiums, forms of proposals or any other information, apply to

ARNHOLD, KARBERG & CO.,
Agents Hongkong & Canton,

Hongkong, January 4, 1871.

ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY,
THE Undersigned, Agents for the above Company, are prepared to grant Insurances at current rates.

MICHAELIS & CO.,
Agents, Royal Insurance Company.

CHINESE INSURANCE COMPANY, (LIMITED.)

NOTICE.

POLICIES granted at current rates on Marine Risks to all parts of the World. In accordance with the Company's Articles of Association, Two Thirds of the Profits are distributed annually to Contributors, whether Shareholders or not, in proportion to the net amount of Premium contributed by each, the remaining third being carried to Reserve Fund.

OLYPHANT & CO.,
General Agents.

Hongkong, April 17, 1873.

QUEEN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE Undersigned are prepared to grant Policies against Fire to the extent of \$45,000 on Buildings, or on Goods stored therein, at current local rates, subject to a Discount of 20% on the Premium.

NORTON & CO.,
Agents.

Hongkong, January 1, 1874.

NORTH BRITISH & MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Incorporated by Royal Charter and
Special Acts of Parliament.

ESTABLISHED 1809.

CAPITAL £2,000,000.

THE Undersigned, Agents at Hongkong for the above Company, are prepared to grant Policies against FIRE, to the extent of £10,000 on any Building, or on Merchandise in the same, at the usual Rates, subject to a discount of 20 per cent.

GILMAN & CO.,
Agents.

Hongkong, July 6, 1875.

THE LONDON ASSURANCE, INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER OF HIS MAJESTY KING GEORGE THE FIRST, A.D. 1720.

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Corporation are prepared to grant Insurances as follows:

Marine Department.
Policies at current rates payable either here, in London or at the principal Ports of India, China and Australia.

Fire Department.
Policies issued for long or short periods at current rates. A discount of 20% allowed.

Life Department.
Policies issued for sums not exceeding £5,000 at reduced rates.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & CO.,
Hongkong, July 25, 1872.

MANCHESTER FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE Undersigned Agents are in receipt of instructions from the Board of Directors authorizing them to issue Policies to the extent of £10,000 on any one first class risk, or to the extent of £15,000 on adjoining risks at current rates.

A Discount of 20% allowed.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & CO.,
Hongkong, January 8, 1876.

MANCHESTER FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF MANCHESTER AND LONDON.

THE Undersigned have been appointed Agents for the above Company at Hongkong, Canton, Foochow, Shanghai and Hankow, and are prepared to grant Insurances at current rates.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & CO.,
Hongkong, October 14, 1869.

INSURANCES.

NOTICE.

LONDON & ORIENTAL STEAM TRANSIT INSURANCE CO.

THE BUSINESS of this Company has this Day been Transferred to THE MARINE INSURANCE CO., of 20, Old BROAD STREET, LONDON.

By Order of the Proprietors,

WILLIAM HUNT,
Secretary,
137, Leadenhall Street,
London,
1st January, 1877.

THE MARINE INSURANCE CO.
20, Old Broad Street,
London,
1st January, 1877.

ESTABLISHED 1836.
CAPITAL, £1,000,000 STERLING.
RESERVE FUND, £340,000.

WITH Reference to the foregoing Advertisement THE MARINE INSURANCE CO. has This Day taken over the Business of the LONDON & ORIENTAL STEAM TRANSIT CO., and has Appointed Mr. A. MCIVER as its AGENT in HONG-KONG, at the usual Terms and Conditions.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
ROBERT J. LODGE,
Manager.

Containing from 72 to 84 columns of closely printed matter.

THE Undersigned is prepared to Accept Risks and issue Policies on behalf of the MARINE INSURANCE CO. by any First Class Steamer.

A. MCIVER,
Agent of the Marine Insurance Co. of London,
Hongkong, February 16, 1877.

HAMBURG-MAGDEBURG FIRE INSURANCE CO. OF HAMBURG.

THIS Company is now Prepared to Issue Policies against LOSS or DAMAGE by FIRE at Current Rates. Every Risk taken by this Company is participated in by Three of the largest German Fire Insurance Companies, representing an aggregate Capital and Surplus of over SIXTY MILLION MARKS, equal to FIFTEEN MILLION DOLLARS, thus enabling this Company to accept large lines.

SANDER & CO.,
Agents,
Hongkong, June 26, 1877.

THE ON TAI INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.
CAPITAL TALES 400,000, EQUAL TO \$655,555 TOS.

Directors.

LEE SING, of the Lai Hing Firm.
CHAN SHUANG LAI, of the Lai Yuen Firm.
WONG YIK FUN, of the Chun Cheong Wing Hong.

LOO YEE, of the Yes On Firm.

FONG SOEK FUNG, of the Tung Sang Wo Hong.

WONG PAK CHEONG, of the San Tye Lee Hong.

PUN PONG, of the Wy Sing Firm.

Manager—HO AMEI.

MARINE RISKS on Goods, etc., taken at CURRENT RATES to AUSTRALIA, CALIFORNIA, MANILA, SINGAPORE, SAIGON, PENANG, and to all the TREATY PORTS of CHINA and JAPAN.

HEAD OFFICE, 48, Bonham Strand, Hongkong, June 1, 1877.

TO LET.

TO LET.

THE Dwelling House and Offices No. 1, D'Aguilar Street, lately in the occupation of Messrs DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & CO. The Dwelling House No. 1, Alexandra Terrace, Possession from the 1st June next.

The Dwelling House No. 6, Gough Street, Possession from the 1st July next.

The Dwelling House No. 10, Gough Street, Possession from 1st August next.

Apply to
DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & CO.,
Hongkong, May 18, 1877.

TO LET.

HOUSE Nos. 8 and 9, Seymour Terrace, House No. 10, Albany Road, lately occupied by the Rev. R. H. KIDD, "Stone Villa," Pok-foo-lum, Furnished.

DAVID SASSOON, SONS & CO.,
Hongkong, February 16, 1877.

TO LET.

With Immediate Possession,
THE Upper Part of No. 62, PRAYA,
either for OFFICES or GODOWN.

Apply to
ROBERT MORE,
Hongkong, June 26, 1877.

TO BE LET.

THE Premises No. 39, Cusen's Road, late in the occupation of THE BOATCO COMPANY, LIMITED.

Apply to
TURNER & CO.,
Hongkong, May 10, 1877.

NOW READY.

THE Undersigned Agents are in receipt of Instructions from the Board of Directors authorizing them to issue Policies to the extent of £10,000 on any one first class risk, or to the extent of £15,000 on adjoining risks at current rates.

A Discount of 20% allowed.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & CO.,
Hongkong, January 8, 1876.

MANCHESTER FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE Undersigned Agents are in receipt of Instructions from the Board of Directors authorizing them to issue Policies to the extent of £10,000 on any one first class risk, or to the extent of £15,000 on adjoining risks at current rates.

A Discount of 20% allowed.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & CO.,
Hongkong, January 8, 1876.

MANCHESTER FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF MANCHESTER AND LONDON.

THE Undersigned have been appointed Agents for the above Company at Hongkong, Canton, Foochow, Shanghai and Hankow, and are prepared to grant Insurances at current rates.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & CO.,
Hongkong, October 14, 1869.

Ordeal will be received by Meiss Lane, Crawford & Co.

Hongkong, July 21, 1878.

Chin's Mail Office, 2, Wyndham Street, (Back of Club).

INTIMATIONS.

ATONG.

PHOTOGRAPHER,
by appointment to
H. E. SIR ARTHUR KENNEDY,
Governor of Hongkong.

and to
H. I. H. THE GRAND DUKE ALEXIS
OF RUSSIA.

Wyndham Street, formerly ATHLETIC CLUB,

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collection of Views of China, Photographic Albums, Frames, Cases, &c., of

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Russia and Velvet Covers, assorted sizes.

Illuminated Albums for Portraits, Tobacco

Pouches, in Shape of Skulls, Rats, &c.,

and a nice choice of Gilt Mountings for

Frames, &c.

Hongkong, March 28, 1877.

NEWS FOR HOME.

The Greatland China Mail.

(The oldest Overland Paper in China.)

PUBLISHED AT THE "CHINA MAIL" OFFICE

IN TIME FOR THE ENGLISH MAIL.

Containing from 72 to 84 columns of closely

printed matter.

Merchant Vessels in Hongkong Harbour.

Exclusive of late Arrivals and Departures reported to-day.

To facilitate finding the position of any vessel in the Harbour, the Anchorage is divided into eight Sections, commencing at Green Island. Vessels near the Hongkong shore are marked *a*, near the Kowloon shore *b*, and those in the body of the Shipping or midway between each shore are marked *c*, in conjunction with the figures denoting the sections.

1. From Green Island to the Gas Works.
2. From Gas Works to the Novelty Iron Works.
3. From Novelty Iron Works to the Harbour Master's Office.
4. From Harbour Master's to the P. and O. Co.'s Office.
5. From P. and O. Co.'s Office to Peddar's Wharf.
6. From Peddar's Wharf to the Naval Yard.
7. From Naval Yard to the Pier.
8. From Pier to East Point.

Vessel's Name.	Anchor-age.	Captain.	Flag and Rig.	Tons.	Date of Arrival.	Consignees or Agents.	Destination.	Remarks.
Steamers								
Arratoon Apoas	5 o	MacTavish	Brit. str.	1322	July 1	David Sassoon, Sons & Co.	S'pore, Calcutta, &c.	
Danube	3 h	O'Clancy	Brit. str.	560	July 2	Yuen Fat Hong	Bangkok Coast Ports	9th inst.
Douglas	5 h	Pitman	Brit. str.	864	June 29	Douglas Lapraik & Co.	Coast Ports	To-morrow
Emmy	4 h	Blanco	Span. str.	222	June 3	Remedion & Co.	Singapore	McD. Slip